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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/772,726 | 02/04/2004 | Terry-Lee M. Fritz | 200311549-1 | 5629 |

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FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

EVANISKO, LESLIE J

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

2854

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/772,726

Applicant(s)

FRITZ ET AL.

Examiner

Leslie J. Evanisko

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10 and 12-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10 and 12-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The indicated allowability of claims 1-8, 10, and 12-14 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Braun (US 2005/0068550 A1). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-2, 4-7, 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Braun (US 2005/0068550 A1). Braun teaches a method of verifying light conditions comprising viewing an article under a given light condition, wherein first and second colored markings have been printed on the article, wherein the first and second colored markings are metameric and have the same color appearance under a first light condition, determining whether the first and second markings have the same color appearance, and thereby determining whether the article is being viewed under the first light condition. See paragraphs [0007], [0014]-[0017], and [0020] in particular.

With respect to claim 2, note Braun teaches the first and second markings are printing with first and second members of a pair of metameretic inks in paragraphs [0014]-[0016].

With respect to claim 4, note Braun teaches the first and second members of the pair of metameretic inks are spot (i.e., “pure K”) and process (i.e., “CMY combination”) inks, respectively in paragraph [0016].

With respect to claim 5, note at least one of the first and second markings of Braun is printed with a mixture of process inks (i.e., the “CMY combination”) in paragraph [0016].

With respect to claim 6, note the teaching of Braun in paragraph [0017] that the targets are bipartite patches, concentric patches, or half-and-half images, which would inherently include the markings be printed adjacently.

With respect to claims 7 and 14, note Braun teaches printing a plurality of pairs of metameretic markings, determining which markings have the same (or closest) color appearance, and thereby determining the light condition under which the article is being viewed. Again, attention is invited to paragraph [0016].

With respect to claim 12, note Braun teaches the use of a single printer (i.e., the characterized printer) for printing the markings in paragraph [0017].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 3, 8, 10, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Braun (US 2005/0068550 A1) in view Beck (GB 1 407 065). With respect to claim 3, note that although Braun does not specifically teach the first and second members of the pair of metamerics inks are both spot inks as recited. Note Braun teaches the use of spot and process inks to print metamerics markings in paragraph [0016] and additionally states that "other color combinations will also work." Furthermore, Beck teaches the use of spot inks for printing a pair of metamerics markings is well known in the art, as exemplified by the teachings in page 4, line 37 through page 25. In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the first and second members of the pair of metamerics inks of Braun be printed with spot inks as taught by Beck as it would simply require the obvious substitution of one known ink for

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another to provide a simplified process for printing metameretic markings since spot inks are essentially “pre-mixed” ink compositions (as opposed to marks made by process inks which require the separate ink colors to be mixed during the printing process to achieve a particular colored mark).

With respect to claim 8, although Braun is silent with respect to whether the second and third markings are the same, note Beck teaches printing a plurality of metameretic inks such that the marks are substantially identical in lines 24-33 of page 4.

With respect to claim 10, although Braun is silent with respect to the particular details of the article being printed and whether it is a fabric or paper article, the printing of metameretic marks upon substrates such as fabrics or paper is well known in the art, as exemplified by Beck in page 3, lines 108-119. In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the article being printed in the process of Braun to be a fabric or paper article as taught by Beck to provide an accurate method of verifying light conditions for fabric or paper articles printed with metameretic marks.

With respect to claim 13, although Braun does not specifically teach printing the first and second markings with one printer and the third and fourth markings with a second printer, note Beck teaches that various metameretic markings using different printing arrangements is well known in the art, as exemplified by the teachings in page 2, lines 76-114. In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the metameretic markings in Braun to be printed by different printing apparatus or arrangements as taught by Beck such that printing of multiple

markings can be achieved simultaneously or with less down time to exchange ink cartridges, resulting in quicker production of the printed articles.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8, 10, and 12-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

In particular, Braun teaches (or renders obvious in view of Beck) the method of verifying light conditions as recited.

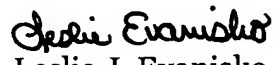
Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Leslie J. Evanisko** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-2161**. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:30 am-6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew H. Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Leslie J. Evanisko
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2854

lje
March 21, 2006